

Reeth Board Dist.

Annual Report. 1949 -

REETH,  
Richmond,  
Yorks.

July 1950.

Officials

Medical Officer of Health: W. C. Speirs, M.B., Ch.B.

Sanitary Inspector: J. V. Metcalfe, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Gentlemen,

The following is my report for the year 1949.

The statistics are based on an estimated population of 2,103 persons. The area of your district is 74,535 acres or 116 square miles. The density is therefore 18 persons to a square mile.

The number of inhabited houses on 31st December 1948 was 933.

The rateable value is £8,198 and a penny rate yields £31.7s.3d. approximately.

The chief industries are Agriculture and the quarrying of Boulder Flint.



# V I T A L   S T A T I S T I C S

	M	F	TOTAL	RATE PER 1,000 OF    POPULATION	RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL BIRTHS	RATE PER 1,000 LIVE    BIRTHS
Live Births	10	12	22	10.4		
Legitimate	10	10				
Illegitimate	-	2				
Still Births		1				
Legitimate		1			45.45	
Illegitimate	-	-				
Deaths under one year	1	-				
Legitimate	1	-				
Illegitimate	-	-				45.45
Deaths	9	21	30	14.27		

Deaths from Puerperal Causes	Nil
Deaths from Cancer	3
Deaths from Measles	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea under two years	Nil



# S U M M A R Y   O F   D E A T H S

Name of Disease	M	F
Cancer	1	2
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	1	2
Heart Disease	1	10
Other Circulatory Diseases	0	1
Bronchitis	2	1
Digestive Diseases	0	3
Congenital Disease	1	0
Road Accidents	1	0
Other Violent Causes	0	1
All other Causes	2	1
	9	21
TOTAL 30		





Since the introduction of the Health Scheme in July 1948 the Expectant Mothers and the Nursing Mothers are attended by the Nurse supplied by the North Riding County Council and the Family Doctor. Young children are superintended by the same Nurse. Domiciliary Midwifery is carried out by the Nurse and the local doctors. A great number of the women go to the Maternity Hospital in Darlington or to Northallerton. The local doctors do the immunisation and the vaccinations. The nearest Ambulance Control is at Richmond where there are two ambulances and a supply of cars for sitting cases. The domestic help Service is very little used in the District.

Mental Health is not administered by the Council. Patients are now sent to Winterton in the county of Durham which is much nearer than York.

There has been no case of food poisoning in 1949.





# NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Name of Disease	M	F	Sent to Hospital	Died
Typhoid	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	1	1	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
Small Pox	-	-	-	-
Measles	9	10	-	-
Pneumonia	2	3	1	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-
Opthalmia Neo-Natorum	-	1	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	1	-	-
Meningitis	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-
Total	12	16	1	-



# T U B E R C U L O S I S

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 or over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-

1949





## From the Sanitary Inspector's Report

Water: The year under review proved to be a difficult time for maintaining water supplies in your district. This was due to a long period of drought following a mild winter.

Reeth: In the township of Reeth during the Summer the supplies had to be cut off in the evening. At the end of July these measures proved insufficient and although the overflow from Fremington would have met the difficulty, this sooner had to be abandoned as pipes were not available. Ultimately the services of The Fire Brigade were called upon, and water was pumped from the Arkle Beck, but as this was liable to contamination it was chlorinated before being added to the supply. In September pipes having been obtained the supply was augmented from a spring on Fremington Edge (800 yards). There is no question that there are a number of leakages in small private supplies, and the water escapes down old stone drains.

Healaugh Water: During May a serious leakage was discovered, and the pipe repaired, resulting in an enhanced supply.

Low Row Water Supply: Here again there was a shortage during the dry weather. The main from collecting to storage tank was repaired in three places.

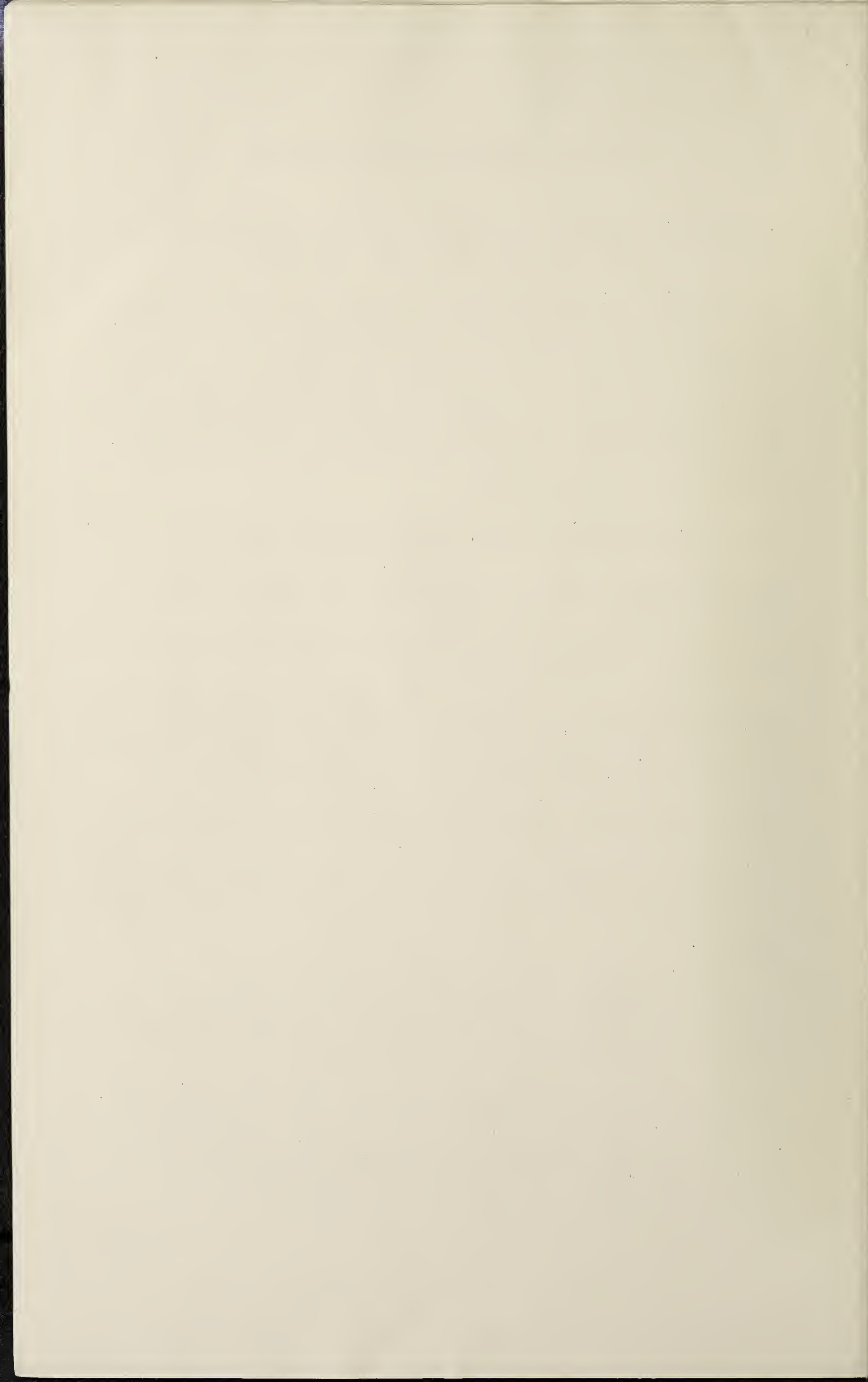
C.B. Yard Water Supply: Here the  $\frac{3}{4}$ " main was replaced by a  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " main with beneficial results.

In conclusion I would once again stress that the water supplied throughout the district continues to be a doubtful quality in the majority of cases, and open to contamination. This could give rise to serious consequences should there at any time be contamination by the human element. Also, many farms and isolated properties, including the hamlets of Crackpot, Haverdale, Ivelet, Thorns and Angram, suffer from periodic shortages, and to remedy these matters, the proposed Regional Water Supply Scheme should be pressed forward. With reference to this latter scheme, gaugings of the springs on Hall Moor during the long drought show on the lowest recording 170,424 gallons per 24 hours, against the estimated ultimate requirements for the scheme of 106,000 gallons per 24 hours.

### Sewerage:

The villages of Thwaite, Low Row, Feetham, Ivelet, West Stonesdale, Langthwaite, Arkletown, Marrick and Fremington, are still without proper systems of sewerage. Keld and Healaugh sewers require extensions, and the disposal works at Reeth, Healaugh, Grinton and Keld are in need of improvement.

It would appear that no progress has been made towards the furtherance of the above sewerage schemes, but it must be borne in mind that the needs of the whole district must be attended to and be consequent upon the provision of an adequate supply of water, in order to rank for grant under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944. The schemes have been prepared by the Council's Consultant, and now await the implementing of the proposed Regional Water Scheme.





## Closet Accommodation

Conversion to W.C.'s	10
Additional W.C.'s	1
Septic tanks and filters	2
Cesspools	1

## Rivers and Streams

The River Swale and the Arkle Beck are the natural means of drainage for the district. These waters are dispoiled by the deposit of household refuse at Keld, Thwaite, Muker, Gunnerside, and Langthwaite. Only a proper refuse collection scheme and adequate sewerage can prevent such nuisances.

## Public Cleansing

Scavenging by motor transport at Reeth, Fremington, Healaugh and Grinton has been continued throughout the year. The service was to be extended so as to include the parish of Melbecks, but no contractor would accept the undertaking.

The tip at Low Level, Arkengarthdale continues to be used, but as this is to be closed by July 1950, efforts are being made to find an alternative site. The site applied for at Stolerston was turned down by the County and Regional Planning Authorities.

## Schools

Water supplies to the schools in the area, with the exception of Reeth and Arkengarthdale, are from Council mains. In the case of Reeth School the supply is open to contamination at the collection area on Reeth Moor, also in droughty weather, the supply soon gives out. For long periods during the year water was being carried from the village supply, consequently, cooking arrangements were carried on under difficulty, and closets could only be flushed once each day. There is no alternative source of supply available within a reasonable distance, and to solve the problem, the proposed Regional Water Scheme is urgently required.

Cooking arrangements at the schools have been inspected, and found in all cases to be in good order.

## Milk Supply

During the year, a far reaching change has been made under the Milk and Dairies Regulation, 1949, whereby all farm premises now come under the direct control of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, which Department registers producers.

## Food Inspection

There are no slaughter houses in use throughout the area.

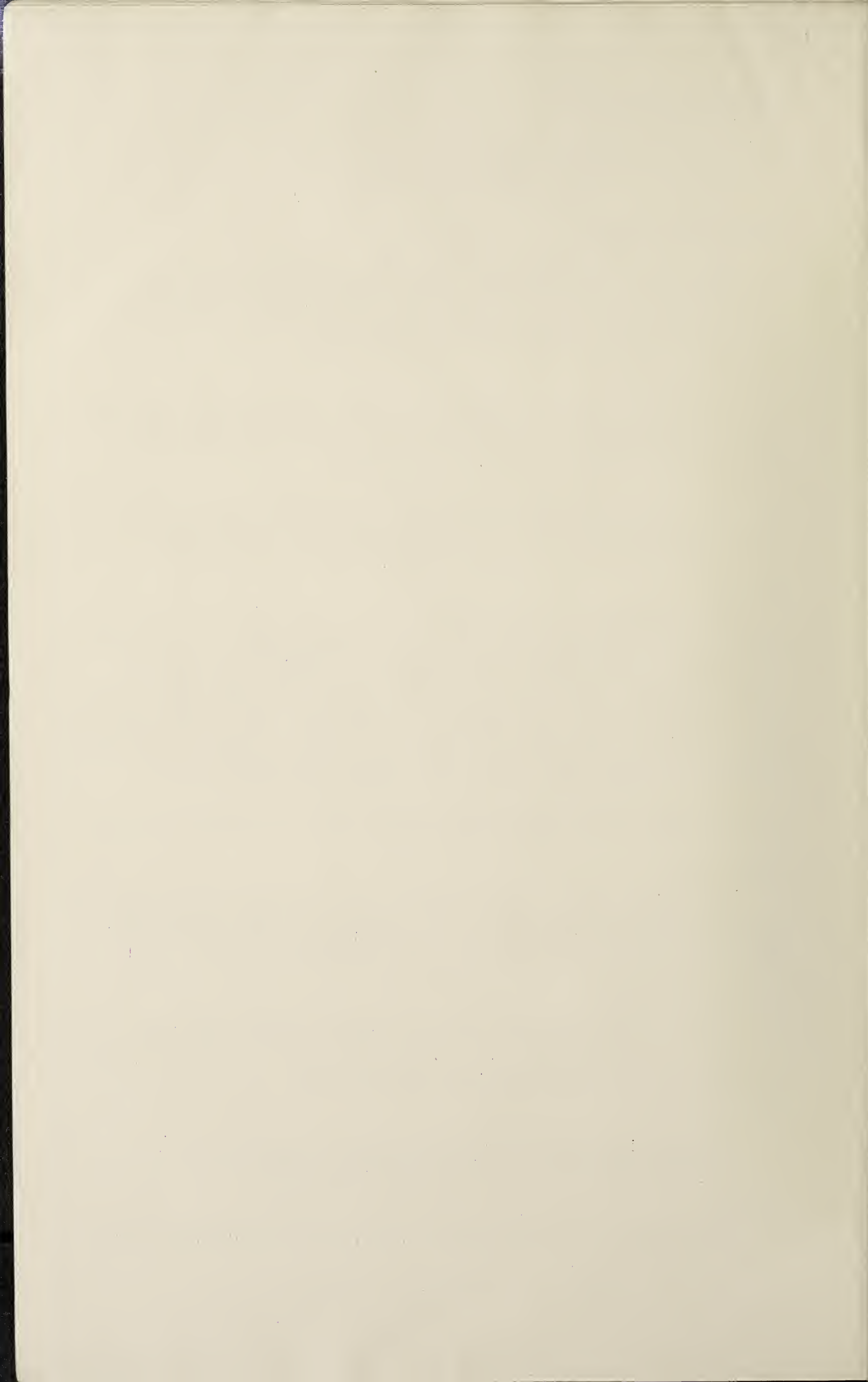
Small quantities of bacon, butter and tinned goods have been condemned as unfit for food from retail shops.

## Rodent Control

Isolated infestations at houses have been dealt with, as well as treatment to refuse tips and sewage works.

## Housing

With regard to the building of new houses, the Council decided



that a site at Reeth should be chosen, but before doing so, invited the Parish Council to offer suggestions. A site on the south side of Silver Street was decided upon and the Architect instructed to prepare a layout plan. This latter provided for twenty six houses, twelve being for immediate development.

#### Public Conveniences

During March, Tenders were invited for the erection of Conveniences at Muker and Keld, the sites having been approved after a Ministry of Health Public Inquiry. No tenders were received, local contractors having in hand as much work as they could cope with. The conveniences at Reeth, having no continual supervision, have been subject to vandalism. Coin boxes were repeatedly broken, and toilet rolls pilfered. The police were notified, but the damage still continued.

#### Infectious Disease

No serious outbreaks occurred in the district, only two disinfections being required.

#### Civil Building Control: Defence Regulation 56 A

The free allowance for building work without licence having been raised from £10 to £100, the number of licences issued has been greatly reduced. The value of licences issued from 1st January to 31st December was £8,119.

#### Nuisance Inspections

Total No. of Inspections made for Nuisances only (Not including Housing Inspections)	...	63
Nuisances in hand at end of previous year	...	<u>7</u>
Total needing Abatement	...	<u>70</u>
Abated during the year	...	59
Outstanding at end of year	...	11
Informal notices served	...	26
complied with	...	19
Statutory notices served	...	7
complied with	...	5

#### Tents, Vans and Sheds

There is no congregation of these structures within the area. During the summer months there were a number of caravans sited throughout the area, but, being on widely separated sites, and all well attended to, the only action taken were inquiries to ensure that none were intended to be permanent.

#### Sanitary Inspections of the Area

Complaints investigated	38
Drains tested	17
Nuisance inspections	121
Bakehouses	15
Ice Cream manufacturers	14
Food Shops	45





## Sanitary Inspections of the Area (Cont'd.)

Hotels, catering establishments and licensed premises	67
Factories	17
Cowsheds and Dairies	168
Housing (miscellaneous)	110
Building alterations	87
Shops (Section 10, Shops Act, 1934)	61
Tents, Vans and Sheds	63
Waterworks (Council)	183
Sewerage (Council)	29
Refuse tips	60
Civil Building Control	105

## Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year

(1)	(a)	Total number of houses inspected during the year for housing defects (Under Public Health or Housing Acts)	97
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	123
(2)	(a)	Number of houses (included in sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925	Nil
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil
(3)		Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation	1
(4)		Number of houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation	93
2.		<u>Remedy of defects without service of formal notice</u>	
		Number of houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	14
3.		<u>Action under Statutory Powers during the year</u>	
	(a)	Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936	1
		Number of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	1
		Number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice	Nil
		(a) By owners	Nil
		(b) By local authority in default of owners	Nil
	(b)	Proceedings under the Public Health Act	
		Number of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil
		Number of houses which were rendered fit after the service of formal notices	Nil





3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year (Cont'd.)

- |     |  |     |
|-----|--|-----|
| (a) | By owners  | Nil |
| (b) | By local authority in default<br>of owners   | Nil |
| (c) | Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the<br>Housing Act, 1936   |     |
| 1.  | Number of houses in respect of which<br>demolition orders were made  | 1   |
| 2.  | Number of houses demolished in pursuance<br>of demolition orders   | Nil |
| (d) | Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act,<br>1936   |     |
| 1.  | Number of separate tenements or underground<br>rooms in respect of which Closing Orders<br>were determined   | Nil |
| 2.  | Number of separate tenements or underground<br>rooms in respect of which Closing Orders<br>were determined, the tenement or room being<br>made fit | Nil |

4. Housing Act, 1936, Part IV. Overcrowding

- |     |   |     |
|-----|---|-----|
| (a) | 1. Number of houses overcrowded at end of year  | Nil |
|     | 2. Number of families dwelling therein  | Nil |
|     | 3. Number of persons dwelling therein   | Nil |
| (b) | Number of new cases of overcrowding reported<br>during the year   | Nil |
| (c) | Number of cases of overcrowding relieved<br>during the year   | Nil |
|     | Number of persons concerned in such cases   | Nil |
| (d) | Particulars of any cases in which dwelling<br>houses have again been overcrowded after the<br>local authority have taken steps for the<br>abatement of overcrowding | Nil |
| (e) | Any other particulars with respect to<br>overcrowding conditions upon which the medical<br>Officer of Health may consider desirable to<br>report                    | Nil |

Factories

There is one small factory in the area making Christmas Crackers and at certain times mops. In addition there are two Joiners' Shops fitted with machinery which have all been inspected.

I remain,

Gentlemen,

Respectfully yours

W. C. SPEIRS.

